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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Object No 31 at Lengenfeld of the Wismut AG

DATE OF REPORT 2 October 1956

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PLACE ACQUIRED

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DATE OF INFO

LAST REPORT ON SUBJECT (If applicable)

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EVALUATION OF SOURCE

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APPRAISAL OF CONTENT

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. It was believed that Object No 31 was subordinate to Object No 6, Main Administration at Auerbach.
The following personnel were subordinate to the management of Object No 31:
Chief of the Ore Unloading Department;
Chief of the Unloading Department for Chemicals and Coal;
Chief of the Boiler Houses;
Chief of the Electric Department;
Soviet Chief Mechanic;
Mechanic of the Ore Sorting Department;
Mechanic of the "Wet Department" (processing department);
Chief of the Chemical Department;
Chief of Department V;
Chief of the Security Department;
Chief of the Building Department;
Shop trade union management and SED factory organization.
Except in Department V, German departmental leaders were attached to the Soviet departmental leaders.
Work was done in three shifts and the labor force consisted of 500 to 600 Germans and 150 to 200 Soviet soldiers.

2. Names of leading personnel:

Soviet Chief of Object No 31	First Engineer Bogatov (fnu)	25X1 25X1
Soviet Chief Mechanic for steam and mechanical workshops	Ivliev (fnu),	25X1 25X1
Soviet Chief Mechanic for electrical engineering	Belanosov (fnu),	25X1 25X1
German Chief of the Ore Sorting Department	Rolf Comi,	25X1 25X1
German Chief of the Wet Department	Walter Matschiner,	25X1 25X1

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Mechanic of the Wet Department	Herbert Hochmuth,	25X1
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German Chief of the Chemical Department	Siegfried Flickenwirth,	25X1
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German Chief of the Ore Unloading Department	Otto Klaerner,	25X1
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German Chief of the Electrical Department	Kurt Stark,	25X1
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German Chief of the Boiler Houses	Kurt Baumann,	25X1
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3. The compressor station was located in the basement of Building I, which housed the chemical department next door to Department V. During the reported period plans were under consideration for extending the basement about 9 m toward Department V. The compressor station was equipped with the following 6 compressors:

Compressor I, type 4Z 3, output: 1,063 m^3 per hour;
Compressor II, type 4Z3, output: 1,063 m^3 per hour;
Compressor III, type 2Z3, output: 550 m^3 per hour;
Compressor IV, type 4Z3, output: 1,063 m^3 per hour;
Compressor V, type 4Z3, output: 1,063 m^3 per hour;
Compressor VI, type SV 9/14, output: 600 m^3 per hour;

All the compressors had a final atmospheric pressure of 7 atmospheres. The compressors were coupled to the following driving motors:

Type 4 Z 3 with an 125 KW electric motor;
Type 2 Z 3 with a 67 kW electric motor;
Type SV 9/14 with a 67 kW electric motor.

Outside the building which housed the compressor station, there were 2 air-pressure boilers with a capacity of 6 m^3 each.
The compressed air was used in Department V for the stirring of solutions in 9 wooden vats, each of which had a diameter of 2 m and a height of 12 to 15 m. Compressed air was also needed for operating a lifting platform which carried mine cars to the ramp. In the Chemical Department, the compressed air was used for 35 or 36 "Agitatoren" (agitators?) which were located in Building I, and for 6 wooden vats, 2m in diameter and 9 m high which had been newly set up in the department which was housed in Building XIa. Compressed air was also needed by the OTK Department for operating the lifting platform required for loading purposes.

4. Only vague information was available concerning production methods. So-called "aktive Masse" (active material) arrived by rail from the direction of Falkenstein at the rate of about one train per day. Coal was shipped in the afternoon.

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5. Groups of two railroad cars each were pushed to the car tilting plant and from there unloaded into an underground ore storage installation. Two conveyor belts installed on the two sides of the truck were available for unloading operations. One of the conveyor belts had been deactivated for some time.go The loading of ore trucks with boxed ore was occasionally seen at the RAS station. No active material arrived by truck. From the underground storage installation, there extended a system of conveyor belts which could lift the ore to a height of 30 m. The last conveyor belt of the system distributed the ore evenly into an underground storage installation which consisted of several departments.

6. The Ore Crushing and Sorting Department was housed in two buildings which were located on both sides of the factory road on the northern section of Object No 31. A conveyor belt extended from the ore sorting department across the railroad tracks to the dump outside the area of the object. From the Ore Crushing and Sorting Department, a rising conveyor belt extended to the bunkers of the Wet Department.

7. Another conveyor belt connected the ore dump to the Wet Department. Crushed ore was stored at the ore dump from where it was transported to the Wet Department.
The Wet Department was located in two buildings, of which one was 20 to 25 m high and 15 m square; the other building used by the department had the shape of a single-story prefabricated building.
From the Wet Department, the ore was taken to the drying room via a roller-type conveyor which was roofed over.
Buckets of light metal 40 to 50 cm in diameter and 30 cm high were transported on this conveyor belt.

8. In the drying room, the ore was dried on plates which were exposed to steam. Work was done in three shifts. The storage room of the drying room was connected to the OTK by a conveyor belt.
Only Soviets worked at the OTK Department. The personnel working there had to load the mine cars with processed ore.

9. The processed ore was exclusively loaded by Soviet soldiers at the ramp located in front of OTK. The mine cars were pushed on rails from the OTK Department onto the trucks. Each truck could carry three mine cars, and the ore was covered with tarpaulins.
After being loaded, the trucks left Object No 31 individually through Gate 1, but assembled in convoys near the gate. Chief of the convoy used to be a Soviet officer who received the shipping papers from the Soviet chief of the OTK Department. It was observed that each convoy consisted of 7 to 10 trucks and would leave every morning between 0900 and 0930. Several times, a similar convoy was seen in the afternoon. Such convoys were seldom seen on Sundays.

10. The Soviet trucks loaded with ore proceeded via Lengenfeld to Rodewisch from where they went to Aue via Wernesgruen.

11. The Chemical Department was located in Buildings I, XI and XIa. Building I housed the agitators, the presses, the disk filters and the concentrators. In Buildings XI and XIa, only 6 wooden vats, about 2 m in diameter and 9 m high were seen. It was believed possible, however, that additional vats and machinery were available

in these buildings. Two concentrators were seen in front of Building XIa. Another concentrator which was also said to belong to the Chemical Department, was observed in front of the drying installation of the OTK.
The chemicals cused in the department were prepared at the sodium and acids stations which were located at the end of the spur track extending into the installation. Other acid containers were located near Building XIa in temporary buildings which also housed the pumping plant. Soviet trucks were repeatedly observed in front of the sodium station, near which there was a lime plant and a big tank filled with soda lye. These trucks took alcaline materials, filled in large containers, to the chemical department. It was believed, however, that the trucks were only used for this purpose when the compressor air pipes which presumably extended from the sodium plant to the chemical department were out of operation. It was believed that the chemical department sent its products to Department V.

12. Department V was specially fenced in, and watchtowers occupied by guards had been set up at the four corners at the fence. Department V was housed in a 2-story stone building and most of the personnel working there were Soviets. A ramp was attached to the department. The only information available was that 9 wooden vats, about 2 m in diameter and 12 to 15 m high had been set up at Department V, which was newly established in 1953 and opened in 1954. It was generally known, that the construction of the department had cost 5 million DME ! A number of pipes, 15 to 20 cm in diameter, extended from the Wet Department to Department V. No information was available on the material which passed through these pipes. It was known, however, that trucks were employed for the transportation of mud-like material in triangular containers to Department V when the pumps which served these pipelines had broken down. Department V is believed to have included a Soviet-operated laboratory. Since this laboratory was probably not up to requirements, work on the construction of a new laboratory was started near the German administration in 1955. The new laboratory was a villa-like structure with 2 stories. Its windows were railed. The interior equipment of the laboratory was still missing.
Processed ore was sent to Department V on Soviet trucks for final processing there. The processed ore may have come from Object No 32. The working clothes of personnel working in Department V were covered with a yellow dust which was carefully brushed off by Soviet soldiers at the gate of the department.

13. A lifting platform located at Department V lifted large triangular sheet metal containers to the loading ramp from where these containers were transloaded to Soviet trucks. Each truck was loaded with 3 such containers. The loaded trucks left the installation through the main gate, Gate II, and proceeded toward Lengenfeld-Rodewisch and then probably proceeded to Auerbach. The rate at which trucks left Department V was rather uneven. No more than 3 or 5 trucks were seen leaving at a time. All the trucks loaded with triangular sheet metal containers had to pass over a waybridge before they could leave the installation.

14. Sulfuric acid arrived in railroad tank cars. The acid was transloaded by means of pumps into the acid containers, which were installed partly underground. The installation was built in 1954. Compressed air

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lines extended to 2 acid containers which had a capacity of about 6 cbm each. The concentrated sulfuric acid was processed in Department V. About 6 cbm of sulfuric acid tof 80 to 90 % were processed within a 20-hour period.

15. Since the new Soviet chief of Object No 31 had arrived, nitric acid was tentatively used. Minor shipments of carboys filled with acid were repeatedly observed arriving for the acid station at the chemical department and the small Soviet laboratories which were available in all departments.

16. Crystalline soda also arrived by rails. The soda was unloaded into a special container. The natron lye was processed in a large container nearby.

17. The German engineer in charge of the procurement of technical equipments was Oswald Spoehrl, 25X1
Spoehrl was assisted by 25X1
Schellhammer (Inu), 25X1

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